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8 **BEFORE THE**  
9 **BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING**  
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**  
**STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

11 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. **2012-92**

12 **TERESA DENISE LISCA KENT**  
13 **2259 Ezie Avenue**  
**Clovis, CA 93611**  
14 **Registered Nurse License No. 668667**

**A C C U S A T I O N**

15 Respondent.

16 Complainant alleges:

17 **PARTIES**

18 1. Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., RN ("Complainant") brings this Accusation solely in her  
19 official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing ("Board"),  
20 Department of Consumer Affairs.

21 2. On or about November 3, 2005, the Board issued Registered Nurse License Number  
22 668667 to Teresa Denise Lisca Kent ("Respondent"). Respondent's registered nurse license was  
23 in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on June  
24 30, 2013, unless renewed.

25 **STATUTORY AND REGULATORY PROVISIONS**

26 3. Business and Professions Code ("Code") section 2750 provides, in pertinent part, that  
27 the Board may discipline any licensee for any reason provided in Article 3 (commencing with  
28 section 2750) of the Nursing Practice Act.

1           4.    Code section 2764 provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration of a license shall not  
2   deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee or  
3   to render a decision imposing discipline on the license. Under Code section 2811, subdivision  
4   (b), the Board may renew an expired license at any time within eight years after the expiration.

5           5.    Code section 2761 states, in pertinent part:

6                   The board may take disciplinary action against a certified or licensed  
7   nurse or deny an application for a certificate or license for any of the following:

8                   (a) Unprofessional conduct, which includes, but is not limited to, the  
9   following:

10                   (1) Incompetence, or gross negligence in carrying out usual certified or  
11   licensed nursing functions . . .

12           6.    California Code of Regulations, title 16, section ("Regulation") 1442 states:

13                   As used in Section 2761 of the code, 'gross negligence' includes an  
14   extreme departure from the standard of care which, under similar circumstances,  
15   would have ordinarily been exercised by a competent registered nurse. Such an  
16   extreme departure means the repeated failure to provide nursing care as required or  
17   failure to provide care or to exercise ordinary precaution in a single situation which  
18   the nurse knew, or should have known, could have jeopardized the client's health or  
19   life.

20           7.    Regulation 1443 states:

21                   As used in Section 2761 of the code, "incompetence" means the lack of  
22   possession of or the failure to exercise that degree of learning, skill, care and  
23   experience ordinarily possessed and exercised by a competent registered nurse as  
24   described in Section 1443.5.

### 25                   COST RECOVERY

26           8.    Code section 125.3 provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the  
27   administrative law judge to direct a licensee found to have committed a violation or violations of  
28   the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and  
enforcement of the case.

### 29                   DEFINITIONS

30           9.    "Coumadin", a brand of warfarin sodium, is an anticoagulant (blood thinner) used in  
31   the prevention or treatment of venous thrombosis, pulmonary embolism, atrial fibrillation, and

32   ///

1 myocardial infarction. Coumadin interferes with blood clotting by lowering the liver's production  
2 of certain clotting factors.

3 10. Prothrombin time (PT) is a blood test used to assess the clotting ability of blood; i.e.,  
4 how long it takes for blood to clot. The PT test is also used to monitor the condition of patients  
5 who are taking warfarin.

6 11. International Normalized Ratio (INR) is a laboratory test used to determine the  
7 comparative rating of a patient's PT ratio, used as a standard for monitoring the effects of  
8 warfarin.

### 9 FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

#### 10 (Gross Negligence)

11 12. At all times relevant herein, Respondent was employed as a registered nurse for  
12 Clovis Community Medical Center located in Clovis, California.

13 13. On or about September 26, 2008, patient D. L. was admitted to the medical center  
14 with acute shortness of breath due to chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, rule out congestive  
15 heart failure, rule out pneumonia.

16 14. On or about September 27, 2008, Dr. S. S. ordered Coumadin 5 mg for the patient to  
17 be given by mouth every "HS" (hour of sleep or 2100 hours as set forth in the medical center's  
18 policies and procedures). Between September 27 and October 8, 2008, the Coumadin was  
19 administered by various nurses as ordered. D.L. subsequently died on October 9, 2008 from an  
20 intracerebral hemorrhage.

21 15. On or about October 7, 2008, at 2100 hours, Respondent administered Coumadin 5  
22 mg to the patient.

23 16. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Code section 2761,  
24 subdivision (a)(1), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that on or about October 7, 2008,  
25 Respondent committed acts constituting gross negligence in her care of patient D. L. as defined in  
26 Regulation 1442, as follows:

27 a. Respondent administered Coumadin to the patient without assessing lab values, PT  
28 and INR, to determine if the patient was below, above, or within the target therapeutic range

1 and/or failed to question why PT and INR laboratory studies were not present in the patient's  
2 chart and/or ordered by the patient's physician.

3 b. Respondent administered Coumadin to the patient without questioning the physician's  
4 orders even though the patient was concurrently receiving other medications, including aspirin,  
5 acetaminophen, and amiodarone, which could significantly potentiate the anticoagulant effect of  
6 Coumadin.

## 7 **SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

### 8 **(Incompetence)**

9 17. Complainant incorporates by reference as though fully set forth herein the allegations  
10 contained in paragraphs 12 through 15 above.

11 18. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Code section 2761,  
12 subdivision (a)(1), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that on or about October 7, 2008,  
13 Respondent committed acts constituting incompetence in her care of patient D. L. as defined in  
14 Regulation 1443, as follows:

15 a. Respondent administered Coumadin to the patient without assessing lab values, PT  
16 and INR, to determine if the patient was below, above, or within the target therapeutic range,  
17 and/or failed to question why PT and INR laboratory studies were not present in the patient's  
18 chart and/or ordered by the patient's physician even though Respondent knew of the bleeding  
19 risks inherent in Coumadin administration and the standard or need for monitoring PT and INR.

20 b. Respondent failed to provide education to the patient on the drug/drug and  
21 drug/nutrient interactions when administering the Coumadin.

## 22 **THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

### 23 **Unprofessional Conduct**

24 19. Complainant incorporates by reference as though fully set forth herein the allegations  
25 contained in paragraphs 12 through 15 above.

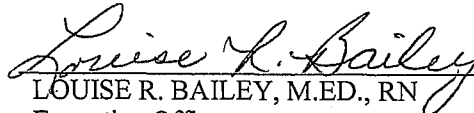
26 20. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Code section 2761,  
27 subdivision (a), in that on or about October 7, 2008, Respondent committed acts constituting  
28 unprofessional conduct, as set forth in paragraphs 16 and 18 above.

**PRAYER**

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board of Registered Nursing issue a decision:

1. Revoking or suspending Registered Nurse License Number 668667, issued to Teresa Denise Lisca Kent;
2. Ordering Teresa Denise Lisca Kent to pay the Board of Registered Nursing the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3;
3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: August 10, 2011

  
LOUISE R. BAILEY, M.ED., RN  
Executive Officer  
Board of Registered Nursing  
Department of Consumer Affairs  
State of California  
*Complainant*